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+49 69 743462162

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New claims

## 1. A chemical composition comprising:

- (a) sclerotium gum;
- (b) a copolymer selected from the group consisting of methyl vinyl ether/ maleic anhydride copolymer and acryloyldimethyltaurate vinylpyrrolidone copolymer;
- (c) a suitable carrier; and
- (d) one or more electrolytes wherein the electrolyte is an effective amount of at least one topically acceptable salt of at least one ethanolamine derivative of formula I:



wherein in formula I,  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  independently represent hydrogen,  $C_{3-6}$  cycloalkyl or  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, optionally substituted with hydroxyl, methoxy, oxo or formyl, and/or a Vitamin C salt.

- 2. The chemical composition according to claim 1 wherein component (b) comprises the ammonium salt of acryloyldimethyltaurate vinylpyrrolidone copolymer.
- 3. The chemical composition according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the ethanolamine of formula I is a mixed glycolate/citrate salt of dimethylethanolamine.
- 4. The chemical composition according to one of the preceding claims comprising:
  - (a) from 0.005 to 3 %, in particular from 0.005 to 1 %, of sclerotium gum;
  - (b) a from 0.005 to 3 %, in particular from 0.005 to 1 %, of a copolymer selected from the group consisting of PVM / MA crosspolymer and ammonium acryloyldimethyltaurate vinylpyrrolidone copolymer;
  - (c) a suitable carrier; and
  - (d) from 0.001 % to 5 %, in particular from 0.001 % to 3 %, further in particular from 0.005 % to 1.5 %, of one or more electrolytes.
- 5. A topical formulation comprising a composition as claimed in the preceding claims and further ingredients.
- 6. The topical formulation as claimed in claim 5 wherein the further ingredients comprise surfactants, emulsifiers, consistency factors, conditioners, emollients, skin caring ingredients, moisturizers, humectants, thickeners, lubricants, chelating agents, fillers, binding agents, anti-oxidants, preservatives, active ingredients, in particular dermatologically active ingredients, fragrances, dyes, and/or opacifying agents, provided that they are physically and chemically compatible with the other components of the composition.

Wherein in formula I, R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> independently represent hydrogen, C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, optionally substituted with hydroxy, methoxy, oxo or formyl.

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7 8. A formulation according to claim 6 wherein the ethanolamine of formula I is a mixed glycolate/citrate salt of dimethylethanolamine.

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9. A formulation according to claim 5, wherein the electrolyte is a Vitamin C salt.

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10. The use of a composition as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 for manufacturing a topical or in particular a cosmetic formulation.

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Claims

1. A chemical composition comprising:
- 5 (a) sclerotium gum;
- (b) a copolymer selected from the group consisting of methyl vinyl ether/ maleic anhydride copolymer and acryloyldimethyltaurate vinylpyrrolidone copolymer, in particular the ammonium salt of the latter; and
- (c) a suitable carrier.
- 10 2. A chemical composition according to claim 1, further comprising:
- (d) one or more electrolytes.
3. A chemical composition comprising:
- 15 (a) from 0.005 to 3%, and in particular from 0.005 to 1 % of sclerotium gum
- (b) a from 0.005 to 3 %, and in particular from 0.005 to 1 % of a copolymer selected from the group consisting of PVM / MA crosspolymer and ammonium acryloyl dimethyl taurate vinyl pyrrolidone copolymer
- (c) a suitable carrier.
- 20 4. A chemical composition according to claim 3 further comprising:
- (d) from 0.001 % to 5 %, in particular from 0.001 % to 3 %, further in particular from 0.005 % to 1.5 % of one or more electrolytes.
- 25 5. A topical formulation comprising a composition as claimed in the preceding claims and further ingredients.
6. A formulation according to claim 5, wherein the electrolyte is an effective amount of at least one ethanolamine derivative of formula I, or a topically acceptable salt thereof:



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